

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, US, EEC

SUBJECT:NEXT ROUND OF US/EC COMMISSION CONSULATIONS

REF: STATE 21069

1. FIELDING, EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, INFORMED US ON FEBRUARY 2 THAT SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES AND THE COMMISSION HAVE AGREED TO HOLD THE NEXT USEC COMMISSION CONSULATATIONS ON APRIL 29-30. HE COFIRMED THAT THE INFORMATION HAD ALREADY BEEN RELAYED TO THE EC WASHINGTON DELEGATION.

2. FIELDING SAID THAT HE CONSIDERS IT A BIT EARLY TO BEGIN DISCUSSING THE PRECISE AGENDA, BUT THE COMMISSION'S FIRST THOUGHTS ARE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE THE DISCUSSIONS CENTER AROUND THE NEXUS OF PROBLEMS INVOLVING THE CIEC AND THE UNCTAD. THE COMMISSION WOULD PROPOSE INVOLVING COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON HEAVILY IN THE DISCUSSIONS AND

PROBABLY WOULD BE WILLING TO ORGANIZE SMALL GROUPS FOR DETAILED CONVERSATIONS IF NECESSARY. OTHER THAN THAT, THE COMMISSION RECOGNIZES

THAT THERE WILL OF COURSE NEED TO BE THE TRADITIONAL DISCUSSIONS OF BILATERAL TRADE MATTERS. AS A RESULT OF THE DENT/SOAMES MEETING AND THE PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER BILATERALS ON SPECIFIC MTN QUESTIONS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW AT THIS TIME WHETHER THERE WILL BE A NEED TO DISCUSS THE MTN ISSUES VERY HEAVILY AT THE APRIL 29-30 MEETING, THOUGH OF COURSE IT COULD BE ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE AGENDA. THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR

A DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS UNDER THE
GENERAL HEADING OF THE CONSULTATIONS AND IT MAY SHORTLY BE
PUTTING FORTH A SUGGESTION FOR SEPARATE MEETINGS ON THIS
SUBJECT. MORRIS

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